

Application Serial No. 10/688,872

Attorney Docket No. D0000-1005d1

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****JUL 10 2006**REMARKS/ARGUMENTSClaim Status

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-10, and 13-18 are pending in this application. Claims 16-18 are allowed. Claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, 10, and 13-15 stand rejected. Claim 9 stands objected to. Claims 1, 7, and 10 have been amended. No claims have been added or canceled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tso-Chin et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,210,216) in view of Okamoto (U.S. Pat. No. 6,752,662). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests that it be withdrawn in light of the amendments made to claim 1.

Neither Tso-Chin or Okamada, either individually or in combination, teach or suggest "a first cavity defined by at least one first interior portion of the housing, the at least one first interior portion comprising a first outer shell integrally formed in the housing," as expressly recited by claim 1, as amended. An example of such a cavity is shown in FIGS. 1A-1E of the present application, in which cavities 106a-b are formed by portions of the housings 102a-b which serve as outer shells of USB connectors, an in

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which cavities 108a-b are formed by portions of the housings 102a-b which serve as outer shells of IEEE 1394 connectors.

Further examples of and support for the first cavity, as defined by claims 1, as amended, may be found at:

- FIG. 1A, which shows molded cavities 106a-b and 108a-b defined by interior portions of housings 102a-b.
- FIG. 5, in which integral USB connector 502a has a molded cavity 106a that is *formed by housings 102a-b* of the electronic device 100 and shaped according to the USB specification (p. 10, lines 29-33).
- P. 7, lines 11-20, which states: "The device 100 includes an upper housing 102a and a lower housing 102b constructed of, e.g., injection-molded plastic. . . . The portions of housings 102a-b which enclose cavities 106a-b serve as the outer shells of USB connectors . . . , while the portions of housing 102a-b which enclose cavities 108a-b serve as the outer shells of IEEE 1394 connectors . . . ."
- P. 7, lines 29-34, which states: "The portions of the housings 102a-b that form the cavities 106a-c and 108a-c have the cross-sectional profiles of the corresponding (USB or IEEE 1394) plug to which they mate and thereby

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serve as the outer shells of (USB or IEEE 1394) tongue connectors."

In summary, the "first cavity" recited by claim 1, as amended, is defined by *at least one first interior portion of the housing*. Neither Tso-Chin nor Okamoto, either individually or in combination, teaches or suggests this limitation. Therefore, claim 1, as amended, patentably distinguishes over the combination of Tso-Chin and Okamoto.

Claims 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tso-Chin in view of Okamoto and Tan et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,475,021). All of the rejected claims now incorporate, either directly or by dependency, the claim limitations discussed above. None of the cited references, either alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the claim limitations discussed above. Applicant therefore traverses the rejection of claims 4-5, 7-8, 10-11, and 13-15 for the reasons provided above and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

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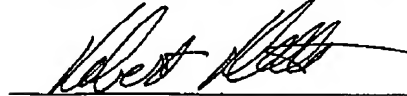
CONCLUSIONS

Any dependent claims not specifically discussed above depend, either directly or indirectly, from the independent claims discussed above and therefore are patentable for at least the same reason(s).

If the Examiner wishes to discuss this Response, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the phone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for extension of time is otherwise absent, applicant hereby requests any extension of time. Please charge any fees or make any credits, to Deposit Account No. 50/1797.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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